


MARCH 1948

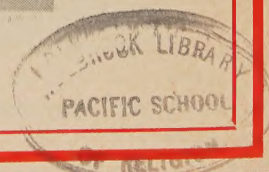
 BIBLE  
SOCIETY

# Record

**WANTED: 500,000 New Members**



***Will She Have the Bread of Life as Well?***





# 10th Annual Seal Appeal Introduces New Feature

USING the slogan, "*The World Needs the Bible*," the Society will for the tenth time launch its annual seal appeal with mailings scheduled to start about February 15. Because of the fact that the appeal will go as it did last year to more than one million people, the mailings will have to be staggered over the period of two months.

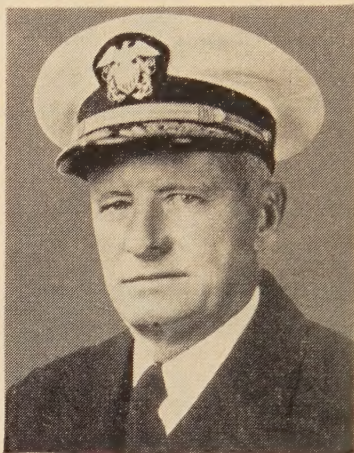
A new and experimental feature will be tested this year. Certain lists will be equally divided—half receiving the usual seals, which have heretofore aided greatly in broadening the Society's base of support; the other half will receive a sheet of 24 poster stamps done in two colors, illustrating photographic scenes of the Bible lands. These stamps are 2x2¾ inches each.

The purpose of the test is to determine whether the new kind of poster stamps may be a more attractive device for encouraging income than the seals which have been previously used. They do have the added value of being useful and interesting to young people, particularly those attending Church and Bible Schools.

Featuring the appeal also will be the effort to enroll new members of the Society in order that emergency needs may be met.

We are happy to announce that the appeal this year is sponsored by

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander in Chief of the U. S. Fleet (Retired). In his brief letter Admiral Nimitz says:



Rear Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

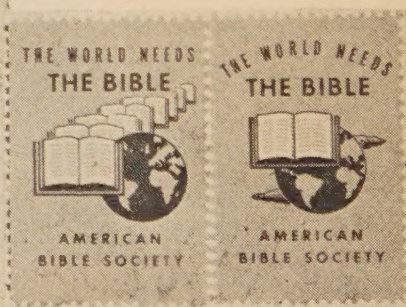
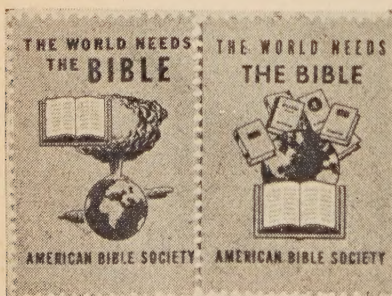
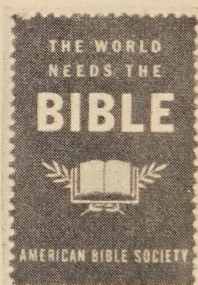
The remarkable accomplishment of the American Bible Society in distributing Bibles for 132 years has, in my opinion, contributed most effectively to the spiritual quality of the American public and of peoples of other lands to which the Society has reached.

The goal of the Society to distribute more than seven million Scripture volumes during 1948, at a cost of over two million dollars above the normal operating budget, is most commendable and merits the support of all in a position to be of aid, financial and otherwise.

I congratulate the American Bible Society upon its record and extend my sincere wishes for success in its campaign to enroll 500,000 members.

Because of increased labor costs the Society is not comparing its prospect lists against its list of contributors. Should anyone therefore receive duplicate copies of the appeal, let him be advised that it is actually more economical to list an occasional duplicate than to incur the excessive cost of list comparison.

*The cluster shown contains a sample of each of the five designs included in the sheets of 100 Seals, and one of the 24 different pictures included in each sheet of Poster Stamps*





# Bible Society Record

A JOURNAL DEDICATED TO THE WIDER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE  
HOLY SCRIPTURES

VOLUME 93 MARCH · 1948 NUMBER 3

## Bibles Now

The world needs Bibles now.

In one sense it always has and always will.

But in 1948 many nations need Bibles with that desperate urgency with which they need food, medicine, clothing.

Bibles are needed now for spiritual revival and, in some cases, survival.

Before the war many of these nations produced their own Scriptures.

Others hitherto were supplied by the British and Foreign, and Scottish, Bible Societies, which at present are unable to serve them adequately.

The above is particularly true of the war-wrecked countries of Europe.

Still other nations, with non-Christian cultures, are now clamoring for Bibles. This is particularly true of Japan, hitherto largely indifferent to the Gospel, but where now there seems to be an insatiable thirst for it and where almost everyone can read.

Korea, with a larger prewar Christian constituency, is clamoring for unprecedented quantities of Bibles and Testaments to counteract the lively anti-Christian literary infiltration among her people. China, Burma, Siam, the Philippines report "famines" of Bibles.

Two shipments of Russian Scriptures have been sent to Moscow since the war, and much larger quantities of Bibles, Testaments and Gospels, according to Russian Church leaders, could be used this year.

The Chief of Staff of the Greek Army has asked for 200,000 Testaments for his men, the books to become their personal possession on their release from service.

India and Indonesia could print their own

Scriptures, so badly needed, if they could get the paper.

These and other doors are open now—and millions of hearts too. They may not always be open.

Here as elsewhere, America is the storehouse of hope. In 1948 only America can meet these urgent calls for immediate Scripture supplies for countries where Christian leaders, missionaries, military officers, governments and schools are appealing to America for them.

Here is a "Marshall Plan" for the Churches to carry out. Like that of our State Department, the plan calls for a long-time program covering a period of years, but also for the immediate response to tragic need.

This issue of the *Bible Society Record* is devoted principally to a report on some of those immediate needs, with suggestions as to how they may be promptly met.

Expressed in dollars, the need is this: that in addition to the raising of the largest budget in its history for its regular work—\$1,796,496—the Society must secure \$2,500,000 additional for its "Bibles Now—World Recovery" Program.

This can be done if (1) every friend of the Society will become a member and secure at least one other member and if (2) every local church will, over and above what it may now be giving to the Society, make an additional gift equal to ten cents for each member. Further details as to how these gifts may be made are found on the back cover of this issue.

The world needs Bibles now and is clamoring for them. Let American Christians gladly rise and meet this need!



# Our Scriptures Reached Russia

*A sequel to the story "A Christmas Present for Russia," published in the January issue, in which the Society's Treasurer and Superintendent of Publication presents the long history of the Society's service for the Russian people and the present opportunity to expand that service as a contribution to a United World*

BY GILBERT DARLINGTON

THE S/S *Dmitri Donskoy* arrived in Murmansk in the last half of December 1947, bringing the American Bible Society's Christmas gift of 10,000 Russian Bibles, 5,000 Russian Testaments and Psalms, 100,000 Russian Gospels and 1,000 Ancient Greek Testaments to the churches and people of Russia.

These Scriptures were presented by the American Bible Society, through Metropolitan Gregory of Leningrad and Novgorod, to Patriarch Alexei of Moscow on October 30, 1947—a gift on behalf of the thirty-five million Christians in the United States who contribute to its world-wide work. Being given a high priority, these books were in Russia before the Russian Christmas, which occurs on January 7th. Although it was not possible to distribute these books throughout Russia before Christmas, still it is good to know the books were in Russia before Christmas and that they are bringing the Christmas message—of good will to men—to the people of Russia from their millions of Christian friends in the United States.

It is especially appropriate that such a gift should be made by the American Bible Society, for in 1816, when the American Bible Society was instituted, the Russian Bible Society, through Prince Galitzin, president of the Russian Bible Society and also the Procurator of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church, sent the Society a cordial message of greeting and good will. Unfortunately, the Russian Bible Society, which was organized in 1814, was suppressed twelve years later by the order of Tsar Alexander I. During the happy period of its service, however, the Russian Bible Society published the first Russian New Testament in the Holy Synod Version and distributed about 500,000 copies of the Holy Scriptures in Russian and other languages.

It was also especially appropriate that this Christmas gift of Holy Scriptures was made through Metropolitan Gregory of Leningrad and Novgorod, for almost all of the translation and publication of Russian New Testaments in the Holy Synod Version took place in the Nevsky Monastery at St. Petersburg. It was here also that most of the Scriptures issued by the Russian Bible Society were printed on the Holy Synod Press. Metropolitan Gregory was formerly professor of Old Testament in the Seminary in Leningrad, and carries with him at all times a copy of the Russian Bible printed in 1908.

While in New York the Metropolitan indicated that there were twenty seminaries now open in Russia and that the Ancient Greek Testaments donated by the American Bible Society will be put to good use in these seminaries.

No one who remembers the heroic resistance of the people of Russia to the Nazi war machine can ever



*Daniel Burke, President of the American Bible Society, presents to Metropolitan Gregory of Leningrad and Novgorod a token of the 10,000 Russian Bibles and other Scriptures presented to the Russian people by the Christians of America*

forget that Leningrad held out magnificently for 90 days, and that, to keep supplies flowing into the city railroad tracks were laid over the ice on Lake Ladoga in the winter.

The American Bible Society is proud to record that in 1926 it provided the funds for setting up the Old and New Testament in Russian in the new orthography by the official government press in Leningrad. One edition of 25,000 Bibles was printed from these plates in Leningrad with the help of the British and Foreign Bible Society. There was also an edition of 10,000 Bibles in a reduced size published in Kiev; then the plates disappeared. Since then there has been no printing of Russian Bibles in Russia. The Holy Synod no longer has its former Bible printing plant for publishing the Word of God.

To help supply Russian Christians outside of Russia the Gospel of St. Mark was set up by the American Bible Society in New York in 1927, and the Gospel of St. Matthew, St. Luke and St. John in 1942. The New Testament and Psalms was then completed in 1945 and finally the Bible in September 1947. Many other Scriptures are known to have been set up



the new orthography in the Holy Synod Version anywhere else in the United States. It was providential, therefore, that the first edition of 25,000 copies of the Society's Russian Bible was completed in the United States in September 1947, just at the time when Metropolitan Gregory was here. What better Christmas present can there be to show the good will of thirty-five million American Christians to their fellow Christians in Russia, than the Gospel story of the Prince of Peace?

The American Bible Society is confident that its many friends will continue to make generous gifts, so that additional shipments of the Russian Scriptures that it alone is now able to supply may be forwarded promptly to the churches and Christian people of Russia.

As the first Russian New Testament published by the Holy Synod dates from 1822 and its first whole Bible in one volume from 1889, and as there has been no printing of the Holy Scriptures in Russia since 1926, it is evident that here is a vast field in which the good seed of the Gospel can be sown. It is reported that there are 70,000 libraries in Russia today, but due to the great shortage of Scriptures it is doubtful if a third of these libraries have a copy of the Holy Bible in Russian, even though the Russians are a very literate people. The American Bible Society therefore urges its friends to send in at once as liberal a contribution as they can to help supply Scriptures to our Russian brethren.

In 1816 the Russian Bible Society showed its good will to all the American Christians who had united to

institute the newly born American Bible Society; let us now show our good will to the people of Russia by supplying them with just as many copies of the Holy Scriptures as we can.

In accepting the Christmas gift mentioned above, Metropolitan Gregory wrote:

I am indeed delighted of having met such wonderful Christian attitude not only directed to me personally, as a representative of His Holiness the Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia, Alexei, but what is more important, by that most precious attitude of your Society towards the spiritual needs of our religious people in Russia. I really am in a very hard position to find words which could express my gratitude for what you are ready to offer as a gift of such importance to our people, the thousands and thousands of Holy Bible. Will you then accept my most sincerest expression of true gratitude for your generosity in a true Christian spirit of neighborly understanding toward our good people.

At a special meeting held in the Bible House on October 30, 1947, Metropolitan Gregory presented to the Society an ikon in which appeared the text: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."—John 13:34, 35.

May the Christian people of the United States and the Christian people of Russia ever unite in the fellowship of the Gospel that makes us all children of one Father and brethren in Christ Jesus, whom we both worship and serve!

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## Korea Calls

*Reporting an Official Request coming from a Union Meeting  
of all Missions and Church Workers, held last summer in Seoul*

BY FRANK H. MANN

KOREA will be remembered as one of those countries where the foreign-mission movements blossomed with great promise in the latter half of the nineteenth century and on into the twentieth. One way of measuring this is to note that, since 1882, 23,000,000 copies of the Scriptures were distributed there.

Then came the long years of Japanese control which culminated in that bitter period of the last years of the recent war, when the military authorities required that every reference to the Kingdom of God or to Christ as King be removed from every piece of Christian literature—hymnals, Bibles and tracts. Such references, of course, were an affront to the

exalted idea of the status of the Japanese Emperor. When one adds together the effect of this edict of mutilation, the gradual wear and tear upon long-used Bibles during the seven years when all Scripture production in Korea was forbidden, and the fact that no books were imported during that period, he can be assured that by 1945 the famine for the Word had become intense in Korea.

During 1946 and 1947 the American Bible Society printed in this country and shipped to Seoul 56,000 New Testaments in the Korean language, to be distributed by the newly formed Korean Bible Society with the assistance of the chaplains of our occupation forces. On the arrival of the first of these books, Mr.



E. T. Chung, Secretary of the Korean Bible Society, wrote: "It was just the sweet rain after many years of continued drought."

How great was the drought is reflected in the fact that by the time the 56,000 books had all arrived, orders for 90,000 had been received. Of course, it was necessary to install a rationing system and supervise the dispensing of the precious books with the greatest care, to avoid the creation of a black market. No praise is too high for the assistance given in this work by the chaplains of the American Army, who helped get copies of the Testaments to places which were quite inaccessible to civilian transport facilities.

It is suggested that those who want to get a more complete picture of Korea's hunger for the Scriptures read the articles appearing in the *Bible Society Record* during 1947—"A Prayer for Korea" in the July issue, "The Unmet Needs in Korea" in the October issue and "Measuring the Hunger in Korea" in the December issue

Naturally, the 56,000 New Testaments were quickly gone—and long before the second printing of 70,000 could reach the country from America. These are now on the way, together with 250,000 Gospel portions.

Meanwhile last August, at a union meeting of the Christian forces of Korea, a report was made by Mr. Chung for the Korean Bible Society which included the following paragraph:

Resolved, that we express our thanks to the American Bible Society for the gift of 100,000 Korean New Testaments (approximately 126,000 were shipped) and at the same time request it to supply the Korean Bible Society 200,000 New Testaments annually for the next five years; a quarter of a million copies of the whole Korean Bible as soon as possible; and 50,000 English New Testaments of

the Army type, and 15,000 Russian New Testaments—these last, especially the English ones, to be sent immediately if possible, as they are in great and urgent demand by high-school and university students.

In a letter transmitting this report, Rev. William Scott of the Canadian Mission, writing in behalf of the union meeting, stated that the leaders wondered why, when quantities of Scriptures so much greater had been sent to Japan, Korea's needs were reckoned so modestly. Mr. Scott further explained that the resolution made no mention of Gospel portions, since it was felt that only a complete Bible or New Testament would fill the need and win a place in the new popular demand for reading material. "The only books," wrote Mr. Scott, "that are being given widespread opportunity are Communist books. There are various reasons for this. Most of the printing presses are in Communist hands; almost all the printers and their helpers are Communists; paper is secured—often by underground channels—from North Korea; and undoubtedly the Communist press in the South is highly subsidized from Northern sources. One further reason is, that most of the able writers have leftist leanings."

Mr. Scott then explained that the New Testaments from America were the most attractive books on the market and said that if it were possible for the American Bible Society to comply with the request for 200,000 copies annually for the next five years, it would enable the Christian leaders in Korea to launch a movement that would place a Bible or New Testament in the hands of every high-school and college student and in tens of thousands of homes. "With the present eagerness," he continues, "for reading in their own language, it is hard to estimate what this might mean for the Christian Church and for the new Korean nation as a whole. . . .

"It would be a tragedy if we should allow this transition period of great opportunity in Korea to



*Bibles are prominent in a Korean Sunday school*



*Good cheer marks the faces of students at the Bible Training School at Pyongyang, Korea*



pass without making every effort to provide a sure foundation for the new national life on the Word of God."

We are glad to report that the Society has already shipped the 50,000 "Army-type" English New Testaments and the 15,000 Russian New Testaments requested in the Korean Bible Society's resolution. To fill the request for 250,000 Korean Bibles and this year's requested quota of 200,000 Korean New Testaments

would require, it is estimated, \$487,000. If some of these books could be published either in Korea or Japan with materials sent from this country, it would greatly reduce the cost. The Society is planning to do all it can in 1948 to meet this request. It could be fully and triumphantly met, together with all the other needs presented on the pages of this issue, if the membership of the Society could be lifted to 500,000.

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## St. Mark in the Guajira Tongue

*Toward the end of 1944 packages of copies of the first translation of the Gospel of St. Mark into the Guajira language left New York for Colombia. Rev. William E. Thompson, who, with his wife, made the translation, has sent the following account of his work and his people*

THE Guajira Indians, who comprise the largest lowland Indian tribe in South America (about 47,000), populate the Guajira Peninsula in northeast Colombia. This 8,000-square-mile region is desert-like with its cactuses, undersized trees, sand and hot winds. While some of the Indians live with the mestizos in more or less civilized villages, in the main the Guajira live in their own small villages scattered over the peninsula, where their principal occupation is cattle-raising, with some agriculture during the rainy season.

Probably half of the Indians understand Spanish in varying degrees. About a third speak it; but unquestionably Guajira, their own tongue, is the language of their homes and of their hearts. We, with our precious heritage of the English Bible, have grown so accustomed to it that we rather take it for granted. But suppose there were no translation of the Bible in English: think of the misery, the darkness and the slavery to sin that would be ours! This is the condition of every tribe which does not have the Word of God in its own language. Naturally the Bible needs to be read, believed and practiced, but first it must be there.

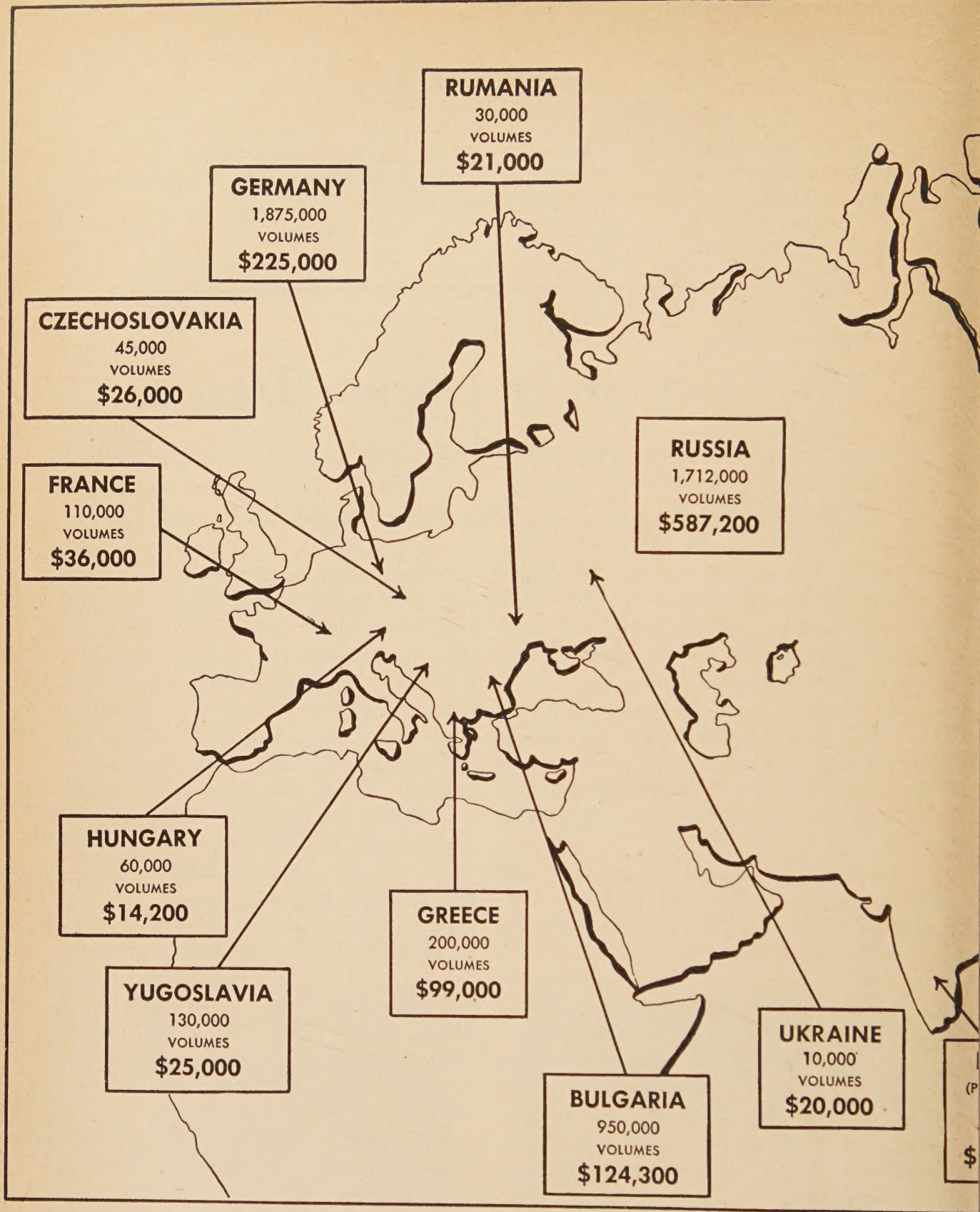
One of the main difficulties in working out the translation of St. Mark was to find faithful informants, not only faithful in attendance but in application. It is hard to get them to think a thing through, to find the best equivalent for such words as 'peace', 'redemption', 'pardon', 'faith', 'salvation', etc. The

ideas are usually there, but not with the same dimensions as we think of them in English. Several informants from different regions were used in order to cover the variations. The Lord's hand was seen in the providing of an informant from the upper Guajira section, for we found a man who was visiting in the neighborhood and looking for work. The translation was begun in 1941. Early in January of 1945 a fellow missionary saw the first package of printed books in the post office and rushed the package to us. Printed on good paper, in diglot form and with attractive red covers, this first part of the Bible in Guajira surely looked good to our eyes.

We are working now to improve the reading charts, for unless the Indians are taught to read, the Gospels will be of little use. Past experience has shown that the average Indian, while fascinated with the sketches on the reading charts, does not persevere in the difficult task of learning to read. We pray that with the incentive of these well-printed Gospels they will be encouraged to keep at it.

The next goal is the entire New Testament. It means hard work. The difficulties are many and the work will require years. But the Guajira Indians are worth it, and we believe the Lord would have it done. May there be many who will dedicate themselves to the task of praying the New Testament into Guajira! A rough draft of a translation of St. Luke is now being restudied and checked, to find words that are understood in all the Guajira districts.





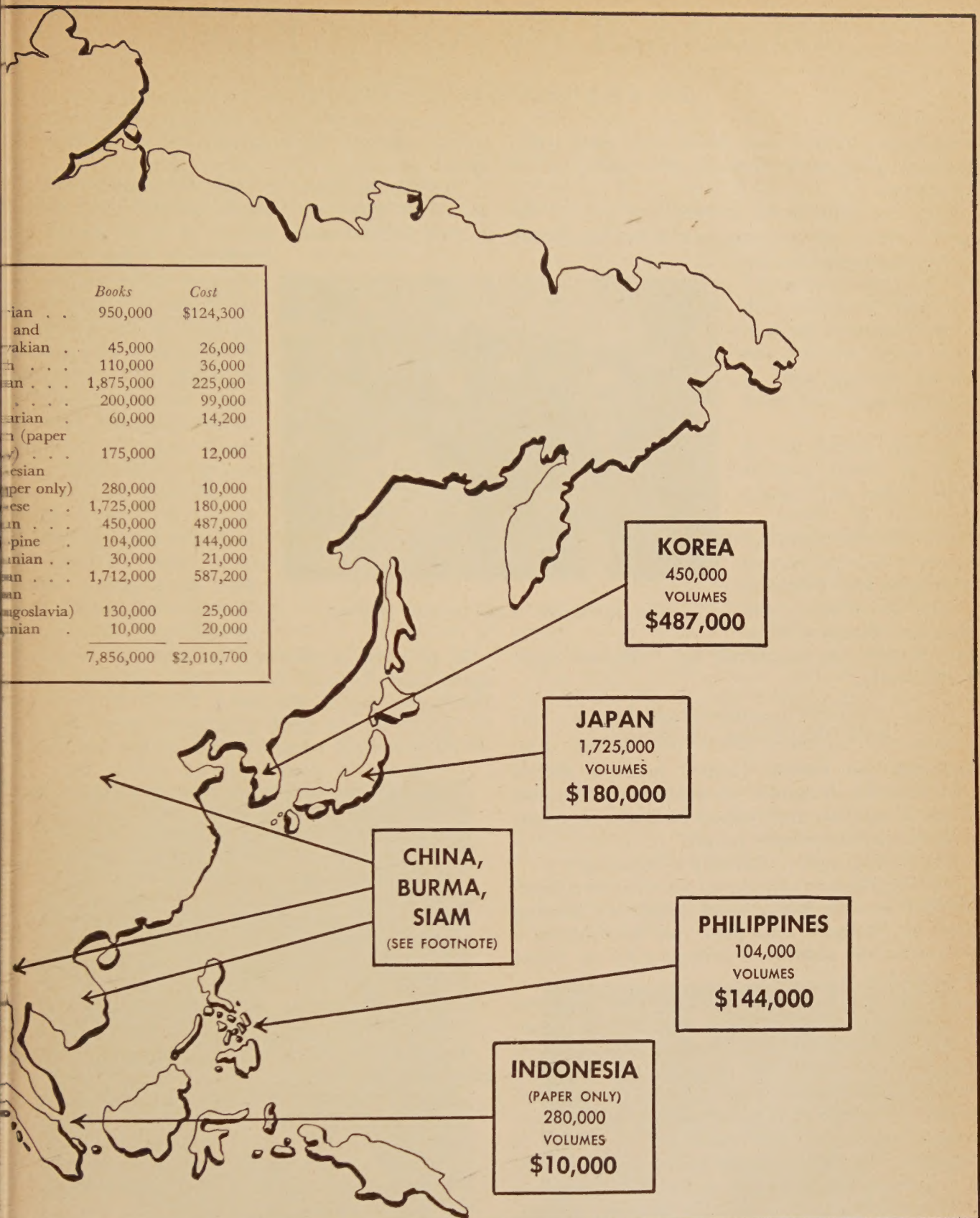
THE WORLD IS ASKING FOR BIBLES, but only two of the five continents are included in the map above. This is because it is from areas in these two continents, Europe and Asia, that the American Bible Society has in the last few weeks received earnest appeals for the Scriptures. Definite quantities of Bibles and Testaments in the native languages of the people are asked for. They must be met

from funds outside the Society's regular budget. The table inset gives the number of volumes asked for in each language and the approximate estimated cost of producing and delivering them.

The urgency, nature and background of these appeals are dealt with in part elsewhere in this issue of the *Bible Society Record* and will be further presented in later issues.



	<i>Books</i>	<i>Cost</i>
ian . . .	950,000	\$124,300
and		
vakian . . .	45,000	26,000
h . . .	110,000	36,000
an . . .	1,875,000	225,000
. . .	200,000	99,000
arian . . .	60,000	14,200
n (paper		
y) . . .	175,000	12,000
esian		
per only)	280,000	10,000
ese . . .	1,725,000	180,000
un . . .	450,000	487,000
pine . . .	104,000	144,000
anian . . .	30,000	21,000
an . . .	1,712,000	587,200
an		
ugoslavia)	130,000	25,000
anian . . .	10,000	20,000
	7,856,000	\$2,010,700



It is not to be inferred that other areas of the world are not also in need of Scriptures. The map draws attention to China, Burma and Siam, where the shortage of Scriptures is great. For 1948 the American Bible Society hopes to meet the calls arising in China and Siam from reserve funds allocated for work in those areas but that could not be used during the war years. Burma has for many decades

been under the care of the British and Foreign Bible Society, who, it is hoped, may come to their help at this time. The ever-expanding demands from Latin America, the Near East and Africa are provided for, at least partially, in the Society's regular budget, which is, significantly enough, the largest in the Society's history.



# What Shall We Answer Japan?

BY FREDERICK W. CROPP

CHRISTIANS believe that the Bible is good medicine for sick souls. In its leaves is healing for the nations too.

Keep this truth in mind when you hear of the unparalleled record of Scripture distribution already made in Japan, and the further desperate need there.

If there is hopeful help in the Scriptures, the Japanese people are well past the low spiritual mark at which the war's end found them.

In that fateful fall of 1945, as *Record* readers know, came the hungry cry: *Send us Bibles!*

Now you who have had some part in the prayer and in the labor and in the consecrated giving which have made these Japanese Scriptures possible can confidently say, "We have made the beginning."

675,000 Japanese Gospels!  
1,456,000 Japanese Testaments!

And only last month, 150,000 Japanese Bibles!

In addition, hundreds of thousands of English Bibles, Testaments and Gospels have also been sent to these Scripture-hungry people.

A beginning, surely. But only a beginning!

Now the Japanese Christians have their own printing facilities—the former royal Toyahawa printing plant at Nagoya. This plant has been given a priority for the printing of Scriptures by the Japan Bible Society.

Already the Japanese have approved an initial trial edition of 2,000 copies of Psalms 1-41—a 64-page, new translation in a Japanese colloquial style. This first edition will test the popularity of a new version, to see whether it will speak to the Japanese people with even more aptness and warmth than the present version. As this experimental edition is printed it will test also the facilities of a press which, if it answers the Scripture needs of the Japanese people, will be taxed to its limits for many months, perhaps years, to come.

For the prodigious undertaking of publishing Scriptures in Japan, materials are needed—materials which do not exist in Japan; materials therefore which we must supply through the American Bible Society.

We are first concerned about 1948—a year which,

before your next *Record* arrives, will be one quarter gone!

In 1948 the Japanese need, desperately need, at least 1,000,000 more Gospels, 600,000 more Testaments, 125,000 more Bibles. If these are to be printed in Japan, 300 tons of paper will be required—paper that will have to be supplied by the American Bible Society, at a cost of \$120,000. In addition, other materials—cloth, thread, glue and binding board—must be provided, at a cost of \$60,000.

And what shall be our answer to General MacArthur's cable, reproduced on the cover of last month's *Bible Society Record*, which *Record* readers saw last month?

It is worth reprinting Treasurer Darlington's query and General MacArthur's response. Dr. Darlington cabled, November 21, 1947:

MUST PLAN NOW FOR JAPANESE 1948  
SCRIPTURE PRODUCTION STOP HAVE  
PUBLISHED AND SHIPPED FROM USA  
ABOUT 1,400,000 JAPANESE TESTA-  
MENTS STOP CAN SHIP 125,000 MORE  
ALSO FIRST EDITION 150,000 JAPANESE  
BIBLES STOP CAN SHIP PAPER AND BIND-  
ING MATERIAL IMMEDIATE DELIVERY  
TO JAPAN FOR PUBLICATION IN JAPAN  
STOP WILL PRODUCTION OF 125,000 BI-  
BLES 600,000 NEW TESTAMENTS ONE  
MILLION GOSPELS IN JAPAN BE ENOUGH  
TO SUPPLY THE DEMAND DURING 1948  
NOT PLANNING FURTHER PRODUC-  
TION IN THE UNITED STATES?

To this General MacArthur promptly replied November 27, 1947:

REFERENCE PERSONAL CABLE TO COM-  
MANDER IN CHIEF 21 NOVEMBER. CON-  
TRIBUTION OF AMERICAN BIBLE SOCI-  
ETY OF INESTIMABLE VALUE TO SPIR-  
ITUAL REHABILITATION OF JAPAN AND  
IS APPRECIATED DEEPLY. DEMAND FOR  
BIBLES, TESTAMENTS AND GOSPELS IS  
INSATIABLE AND BEYOND ABILITY OF  
JAPANESE PUBLISHERS TO SATISFY,  
ALTHOUGH PROFFERED SHIPMENT OF  
PAPER AND BINDING MATERIAL WILL  
DO SOMETHING TO ALLEVIATE SITUA-  
TION. LARGE NUMBERS OF JAPANESE  
SCRIPTURES WERE LOST DURING WAR



*Bibles sell like hot cakes on the streets of Tokyo*



AND IN ADDITION THERE IS GREAT DEMAND BY MILLIONS OF JAPANESE WHO HAVE BECOME INTERESTED IN CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENT OF FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN JAPAN. URGE THAT AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S '48 PLANS BE GREATLY EXPANDED AND THAT DECISION TO DISCONTINUE PUBLICATION AFTER THAT DATE BE RECONSIDERED. BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT DISCONTINUANCE OR EVEN DECREASE OF PRODUCTION WILL BE TRAGIC TO CHRISTIAN EFFORT IN JAPAN IF EFFECTED BEFORE THE JAPAN BIBLE SOCIETY CAN ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MEETING THE EXTRAORDINARY DEMAND NOW EXISTING.

So there we are! And the final affirmative word must come from the Christian people of America. It must be a thoughtful, well-considered reply. It will be a costly answer.

The people of Japan could be told at once, however, that their American Christian friends will supply them with the Scriptures if the churches and people of America would only send a message like this to the American Bible Society:

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY  
CONTINUE TO HOLD FORTH THE WORD  
OF LIFE TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.  
WE PLEDGE OUR PRAYERS AND OUR  
GIFTS TO SEE THAT THERE ARE BIBLES NOW—IN 1948—IN JAPAN!

Will *you* sign such a message of hope?

## Germany Carries On

**L**ICENSES for the export of raw cotton, potato flour, hog bristles, glue, starch, waste paper and binders' board have recently been secured for shipment of these materials to Germany for the expansion of the already encouraging beginnings of the revival of Scripture production there. It is expected that from these materials, dispensed through the Evangelisches Hilfswerk in Bremen, there may be produced this year, in various convenient sizes, 1,135,000 German New Testaments, 700,000 German Bibles and 20,000

Ancient Greek Testaments for seminary and other Bible students.

The two accompanying pictures tell the happy story, which it is hoped may go on until the German people, so devoted to the Bible but so tragically short of copies of it, may again be well supplied.

The larger picture was taken in the printing plant of the Württemberg Bible Society. The operator is running the printed sheets of the New Testament through the folding machine. The smaller picture reveals a happy little child on her way to her home among the ruins from attending Sunday school in the barracks church in Stuttgart. In her hand is one of the New Testaments made in Germany from materials sent there by the American Bible Society last year.

Is there any better way to restore Germany and all Europe than this?





# Reading the Bible Through During Lent

*The Fleet Chaplain of the Pacific Fleet, who during the war was the Officer in Charge of the Naval Training School for Chaplains at Williamsburg, Virginia, bears his testimony to the value of what many others might do*

BY CLINTON A. NEYMAN

LIKE all clergymen, I do a regular amount of Bible reading—for devotional purposes, and in an effort to keep my preaching hitched where it should be—to God's Word. When there was at hand,



*Chaplain Neyman*

just as Lent came last year, a new and comfortable-to-the-hand volume of the Bible, the thought suddenly struck me that it would be an interesting and profitable experience to read it through from cover to cover during Lent.

In the back of my mind, perhaps, was the recollection of something very impressive that Chaplain Miles DePagter, U.S.N.R., had written from South America in a circular letter to his friends and relatives. Part of what he had written was this: "Since leaving the country, I have had the opportunity of preaching in Army and Navy camps, and tomorrow I am preaching aboard a ship here in the harbor. As far as my own spiritual life is concerned, I must confess that the things I have seen and heard and felt have driven me to my knees and to regarding the Scripture more than I ever did before. I have found a great blessing from reading large sections of His Holy Word at a time, instead of just a chapter or two. The picture is very different that way. One has a greater sense of walking close to God, when sin is so prevalent and accepted as it is here."

Without any ceremony I commenced reading the Bible through in Lent. I had read it through in earlier years, before my understanding of it had been as good as it is now. I did not set myself any definite number of pages for each day. I just kept the book with me and picked it up for as long a period of reading as I could manage daily, at the office or at home in the evening.

Folks who saw me carrying my Bible or who interrupted my reading from time to time, and to whom I mentioned that I had set myself the program of reading it through during Lent, registered surprise that one should think of reading the whole Bible in forty days. They seemed to think it a considerable task. But in truth it was no task; it was a pleasure, and easy. On a calculated average speed of so many pages a day (it was about thirty), to finish on schedule, I was usually well ahead of myself. It was only in the last days of Lent, when I had to be much in the air, visiting the islands of the western Pacific and talking with friends, that I lost momentum. But it was easy to finish on time and to give to the free hours of Holy Week a reading of the Book of Revelation and its picture of the New Jerusalem.

I think I shall do it again another year. And I shall follow it then, as I did this year, by the subsequent reading of some book that deals with the Bible. It was done with no pole-sitter's exhibitionist complex. I did it just for the joy of doing it and got a lot of downright pleasure and profit out of it.

We're going ahead so slowly with the saving of a dirty and mixed-up world. I've long been of the opinion that our basic problem is one of a better understanding of the Bible. Our Christian people are so terribly ignorant of what it contains. Whole millions even of churchmen have wrong ideas about it. It's not a taboo, a charm; it is an unexplored treasure, a revelation of God's inspired messengers' records of their thoughts and experiences! Too often it is like the household medicine cabinet—something to which people with aches or pains go to, to get a dose of this or that; and otherwise it means nothing to them. Let the Bible be everything it should be—a read and studied book enjoyed with the joy of the Lord!



# MEMBERS' FORUM

[Annual Membership in the Society is secured through a gift of \$5 or more for the carrying on of its work. The Society also provides for Life Membership, Life Directorship and Memorial Membership. Particulars will be sent on request. The editors welcome correspondence from members and devote this page in each issue to that purpose.]

## From White Plains, New York:

I have been interested in the work of the American Bible Society for some years and felt that I would like to leave a small contribution to its work. However, since reading in the *Record*, and in the letters you have sent, of the great opportunities for the distribution of the Bible at the present time and particularly in the countries of our former enemies, I have decided to send my contribution now instead of at some future date.

I am enclosing a check for one hundred dollars taken from my savings. Since I am a school teacher, I do not expect to be able to repeat this gift.

## From Northwood, Iowa:

I am sending you two dollars for which to buy Bibles to be used in Japan or wherever they are mostly needed. I am reading the *Bible Society Record* with great interest and glad to see the work go for-

ward in Japan, as we had a son who served in Japan; and we have much to be thankful for, as God spared him in this war.

My *Bible Society Record* has been sent to me as a gift by a brother, and I in turn would like to send it to some friends; so would you please let me know what is the cost of an annual subscription?

(The *Bible Society Record* is sent for one year to anyone who contributes one dollar or more to the work of the American Bible Society.—Ed.)

## From Massillon, Ohio:

Enclosed is my check for \$50. I would like my name enrolled in the Society's National Women's Club. It would be a pleasure to be affiliated with a Society that does so much good.


## From Upstate New York:

A workman who was very blasphemous and a heavy drinker was given one of the Thanksgiving-to-Christmas Bible Reading lists two years ago and asked if he would read the passages. He said that he would, if he had a Bible. A Bible was given him and he began reading. Soon he began going to church. The swearing and drinking ceased, and in every way he became a changed man. A few months later, after a brief illness, he passed away; but those who witnessed his death were wholly satisfied that he was ready to meet the Lord. It all began with the reading of the Thanksgiving-to-Christmas Bible selections.

Thank God for the Word of Life! May our Father richly bless the work of the American Bible Society!

## TEN THOUSAND BUSINESSMEN'S CLUB

### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Ten Thousand  Businessmen's Club

Is a Member of the Ten Thousand Businessmen's Club of the American Bible Society by virtue of a gift of \$ for the worldwide work of translating, publishing, distributing and encouraging the use of the Holy Scriptures.

Date

Secretary

Within a nine-month period, or since these Clubs have been in operation, approximately twelve hundred men and women have been enrolled and have been sent their respective membership card, copies of which are herewith reproduced. In recognition of the great emergency for Scriptures throughout the world, the Society would greatly appreciate a greater enrollment in these two Clubs by friends of the Society who are financially in a position to meet these membership requirements.

A year ago the Board of Managers of the Society adopted two new classes of membership; namely, the Ten Thousand Businessmen's Club membership in recognition of contributions of \$100 or more received from businessmen throughout the country, and another membership, known as the National Women's Club, which recognized women contributors of \$50 or more. These two clubs have struck a responsive chord among the more generous contributors to the work of the Society.

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

National  Women's Club

Is a Member of the National Women's Club of the American Bible Society by virtue of a gift of \$ for the worldwide work of translating, publishing, distributing and encouraging the use of the Holy Scriptures.

Date

Secretary



## Bible Society Record

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution and Use of the Holy Scriptures*

**Editors: THE SECRETARIES**

Address correspondence to the  
Managing Editor

FRANCIS CARR STIFLER  
450 Park Avenue  
New York 22, N. Y.



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### Daily Bible Readings for March

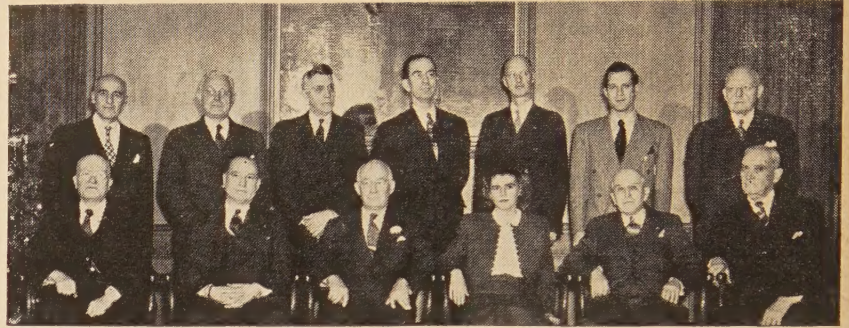
Day	Book	Chapter
1	Luke	1:39-80
2	Luke	2:1-40
3	Luke	2:41-3:23
4	Luke	4
5	Luke	5
6	Luke	6
7 Sunday	Luke	7
8	Luke	8:1-42
9	Luke	8:43-9:36
10	Luke	9:37-10:24
11	Luke	10:25-11:36
12	Luke	11:37-12:40
13	Luke	12:41-13:35
14 Sunday	Luke	14:1-15:10
15	Luke	15:11-16:31
16	Luke	17:1-18:17
17	Luke	18:18-19:27
18	Obadiah	
19	II Samuel	6
20	Psalms	24
21 Palm Sunday	Luke	19:28-20:26
22	John	12:20-50
23	Luke	20:27-21:38
24	Luke	22:1-46
25	Luke	22:47-23:12
26 Good Friday	Luke	23:13-56
27	Isaiah	55
28 Easter	Luke	24
29	Acts	1
30	Acts	2
31	Acts	3

### Joins the Bible House Staff



Mr. Wilson

This will introduce to *Record* readers Rev. Frank Ray Wilson, who joined the staff of the Society's workers on January 1, 1948. His principal responsibility will be the cultivation of support from the Protestant Episcopal Church.



As part of the preparation for the Bibles Now—World Recovery program of the American Bible Society, a group of the Society's field workers spent two days in January at the Bible House. On the first day they studied the nature and urgency of the many appeals for Scriptures now reaching the Bible House from Europe and the Far East. On the second day these workers planned their programs for securing the share of the 500,000 new members which should join the Society from their respective areas. They are, standing, left to right: District Secretary Cameron of Cincinnati, Ohio; Mr. Walter Riland, New York City; Rev. C. H. Hofrichter of Cleveland, Ohio; District Secretary McElroy of Richmond, Virginia; Rev. F. R. Wilson (see elsewhere on this page); Mr. W. A. Yeoman of Newark, N. J.; Mr. D. M. Howell of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Seated, left to right: District Secretary W. L. Darby of Washington, D.C.; Rev. Edgar Brown of Houston, Texas; Rev. Wellington Logan of Detroit, Michigan; Miss Rae H. Serio of New York City; Rev. E. H. Bookmyer of Philadelphia; and Mr. Howard Hubbell of Nashville, Tenn.

Mr. Wilson is an ordained Episcopal minister, having graduated from General Theological Seminary. After serving for over twenty years in three parishes in New York State, the last of which was in Hyde Park from 1929 to 1943, he began a notable five-year term of service as a chaplain in the United States Navy, with important assignments in this country, in France and England, and later with the Third Naval District in New York.

Mr. Wilson has three sons, the two older of whom are now serving in the United States Navy.

\* \* \*

### For Lenten Reading

An enlarged and revised edition of Secretary Stifler's popular book "The Bible Speaks," under the new title "The Bible Speaks To You," will come from the Greystone Press, New York, at about the time this issue of the *Bible Society Record* reaches its readers. Here is a most appropriate book to give as a Lenten or Easter gift to a member of one's family, or to a friend, or perhaps best of all, to one's pastor. The book may be ordered from the Bible House, addressing American Bible Society, Dept. U, 450 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y. The price, in spite of rising costs and a larger book, remains at two dollars postpaid.

### January Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and thirty-second year was held at the Bible House, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, on Thursday, January 8, 1948, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Harry N. Holmes.

A grant of 1,000 Bibles and 500 New Testaments to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., on the Sale and Distribution Plan, was authorized.

The Society's World Emergency program for 1948 was outlined, and Scriptures in Russian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Serbian, Rumanian, Czechoslovakian, Ukrainian, French, Greek, Korean, Japanese, German, and in various Philippine dialects, exhibited.

It was reported that over 3,200,000 bookmarks for Daily Bible Reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas were sent out from the New York office.

Progress in plans for the Bible Crusade in Oakland, California, was also reported.

In view of the Society's campaign for 500,000 members, various forms of Membership in the Society were discussed.



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..... 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill.

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Rev. Richard E. West, 650 Seventeenth Street, Denver 2, Colo.

#### Pacific—California, Washington, Ore., Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii

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### Divisions of the Haven Memorial Agency among the Colored People of the United States

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Rev. V. C. Hodges, D. D., 5424 Woodland Ave., Cleveland 4, Ohio

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Rev. Wm. W. Speer, 515 Pickwick Bldg., Kansas City 6, Missouri

### Depositories—To Which Orders for Scriptures Should Be Sent

New York City 22—Bible House, 450 Park Avenue..... New York, New Jersey, Penna., Del., Maryland, D. C., Virginia, W. Va.

Atlanta 3, Georgia—85 Walton St..... No. Carolina, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tenn., Alabama, Mississippi

Chicago 1, Illinois—35 E. Wacker Drive..... Colorado, New Mexico, Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Utah, Ariz., Ohio, Ky., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Mo., Mich., Wis., Minn.,

Dallas 1, Texas—1914 Main St..... N. Dak., S. Dak., Neb., Kan.

San Francisco 2, California—224 McAllister St..... Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana

..... Wash., Ore., Calif., Nevada, Alaska, Hawaii

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Mexico—Sr. H. T. Marroquín, Apartado 1373,  
Mexico City

Central America—Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Bible  
House, Box J, Cristóbal, Canal Zone

North Andean—Rev. John H. Twentymen, Apartado  
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Bible Lands Agency, South—Rev. Leonard Geary, P. O.  
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Isaac Peral, Manila

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China—Rev. Ralph Mortensen, Ph.D., Bible House,  
58 Hongkong Rd., Shanghai, China

Japan Bible Society—Mr. T. Tanaka, General Secretary,  
Bible House, 2 Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo

### State Bible Societies Cooperating with the American Bible Society

Maine—Rev. Hammond I. Peterson, 19 Pine St., Portland 4

New Hampshire—Edward A. Dame, 24 Warren St., Concord

Vermont—Rev. Stanley B. Hyde, 189 South Winooski Ave., Burlington

Massachusetts—Rev. F. K. Singiser, D.D., 41 Bromfield St., Boston 8

Connecticut—Rev. John W. Osberg, 278 Farmington Ave., Hartford 5

Rhode Island—Rev. Arthur B. Mercer, 144 Westminster St., Providence 3

Maryland—Rev. E. C. Powers, D.D., 9 E. Franklin St., Baltimore 2



## How Record readers may help to enroll 500,000 Annual Members of the American Bible Society



**I**N VIEW of the great world need, which now totals nearly eight million volumes of Scripture at a cost of two and a half million dollars over and above its regular budget, the Society is endeavoring to increase its annual membership to 500,000 persons.

As a goal to aim at, the Society suggests that up to 5 percent of a church's membership be enrolled as members of the Society according to one of the following methods

- 1 By organizing a committee which will present the appeal personally to a selected number of the church's membership.
- 2 To direct a letter to a selected list, sufficiently large so that 5 percent of the church's membership would respond.
- 3 To have the adult Bible class or classes assume this appeal as a project and either secure the necessary 5 percent of members within their own classes or within other groups of the church.
- 4 Arrange for a special presentation at a morning service, with membership application forms and descriptive folders to distribute through the church.

**It is recommended that, regardless of which plan is chosen, the pastor make announcement of the world need for the Bible at an appropriate morning service.**

Friends and supporters of the American Bible Society are urged to present this membership plan to the churches to which they belong and secure an agreement to adopt it according to one of the methods listed above. Then fill in the coupon and mail it promptly to the Society. Suitable materials (application forms, descriptive folders, documentary evidence) will be supplied upon request without charge.

### MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY (Membership Department)  
450 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.

In consideration of the importance of meeting the great need for the Scriptures which exists now and will continue to exist for several years, my church agrees to participate in the "Bibles Now Membership Plan" of the American Bible Society according to the method checked: 1..... 2..... 3..... 4..... You may send .....sets of material.

Name .....

Address .....

City..... State.....

Name of church .....

Denomination .....